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PNRO Fall 2004

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RAVS Visits WA Tribes

This past May, the HSUS Rural Area Veterinary Service (RAVS) paid a visit to three Native American tribes on Washington's Olympic Peninsula. PNRO staff joined them to present humane education programs and meet with local humane organizations and animal control officers. During one week, three veterinarians and 30 volunteer veterinary students spayed, neutered, and cared for 1,662 cats and dogs. The tribal councils of the Suquamish, Quinalt, and Makah were very appreciative of this free service, and plans are to return.

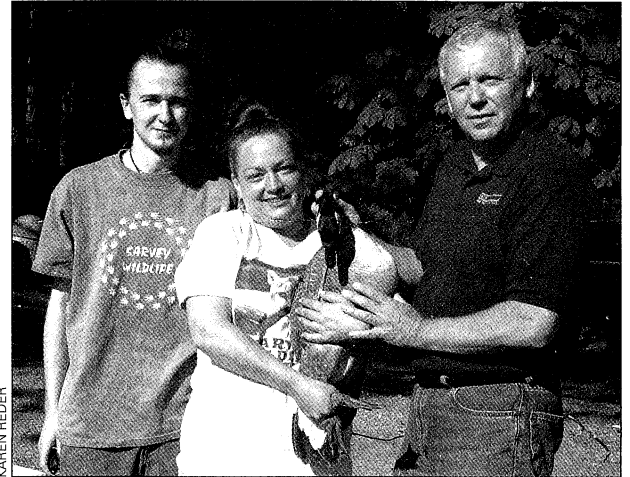
RAVS brings veterinary services to poor communities around the globe, whether in Bolivia or Kitsap County, Washington. RAVS has benefited not only thousands of animals and their owners, but has also expanded the knowledge of veterinary school students who learn some important life lessons. Another important aspect of RAVS is the opportunity to bring humane education to the communities. Volunteers with experience in education are needed to assist HSUS staff in these efforts and are encouraged to contact our office. Students interested in volunteering can visit the RAVS Web site at www.ruralareavet.org.

A girl brings her dog to the RAVS clinic held on tribal lands of Washington's Olympic Peninsula.



One Goose's Happy Ending, Hope for More

Nylon fishing line wound tightly around this female goose's leg (right) caused severe swelling and infection and left the goose to hobble about on one foot. Noticing the lame bird near a lake in south King County, Washington, PNRO Director Bob Reder captured the goose, and, after a veterinarian examined her, she was transferred to the Sarvey Wildlife Center. Further examination found a fish hook lodged in her esophagus. Following surgery, medical care, and three weeks of recuperation, she was ready to return to the lake. On the morning of the release, Sarvey's William Miller and Leslie Henry joined Reder to watch the goose take to flight, call to the other geese, and return to her flock.



PNRO Director Bob Reder (right) witnesses the release of a rehabilitated goose along with William Miller and Leslie Henry, who helped the bird recover.

Reprieve for Seattle Geese

We wish all our goose stories could turn out so well. For the past few years, Canada geese have been rounded up and killed by the hundreds each summer in Seattle's public parks and on the University of Washington campus as part of a regional effort to control their numbers. Geese have come to be viewed by many as nuisance animals, mainly because of the copious amounts of feces they leave on

beaches, playing fields, and park lawns.

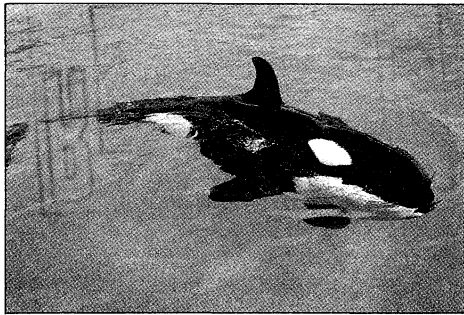
In opposition to the lethal removal of geese, The HSUS and the Progressive Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) have partnered with the Seattle Parks Department to employ humane and non-lethal methods of managing conflicts between geese and people in some of the city's most popular recreation areas. As part of the program, the Parks Department has agreed to discontinue the capture and gassing of geese in 2004 and has furnished volunteers with insurance and clothing identifying them as program participants.

This past April, more than 60 volunteers attended an orientation sponsored by PAWS *continued on page 4*

The King County Animal Control held its Adoptathon and Pet Fair this past June, and PNRO Director Bob Reder joined in to distribute humane education materials and speak with some of the participants. Here, Reder joins (from left) Julie White of King County Animal Control (KCAC), Niveo Ajeto-Castro and his mother Erlinda Castro, who adopted Sparky, held by Niveo; and KCAC's Jennifer Breshears and Steve Couvian.



Federal Protection Sought for Whales, Otters



Washington Orcas Added to State's Endangered Species List

The HSUS is pleased to announce that the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has added orcas (killer whales) to the state's endangered species list. This is particularly important because in 2002, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) refused to list the southern resident orcas as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). The HSUS and other organizations believe that NMFS was negligent, considering the grievous problems facing this very small and important whale population. A federal judge apparently agreed with this position when

he ordered NMFS to reconsider its decision not to list these orcas under the ESA on December 17, 2003. NMFS responded by stating that it would not appeal the ruling, and that a reevaluation would be completed by December 17, 2004, in compliance with the court's order. "The HSUS submitted extensive comments and participated in workshops at both the state and federal levels," said PNRO Director Bob Reder. "And we will continue to work closely with these agencies."

Alaskan Sea Otter Population Shows Signs of Declining

While the sea otter population in northern Alaska was found to have recovered by the mid-1980s, a 1992 survey found that the sea otters had declined more than 50 percent in the waters surrounding Rat, Delarof, and western Andreanof Islands. The survey was conducted again in 2000 and found that sea otters in the Aleutians had declined by 70 percent from 1992 to 2000. Additional aerial surveys were conducted for the northern and southern Alaska Peninsula and the Kodiak Archipelago. This data were then

compared to that from previous surveys from the late 1980s, demonstrating a decline of 93 to 94 percent for the South Alaska Peninsula and a 27 to 49 percent decline for the North Alaska Peninsula. In the Kodiak Archipelago, a 40 percent decline since 1994 has occurred.

With these alarming statistics, this past June, The HSUS, the Defenders of Wildlife, and other concerned organizations submitted comments to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFW) in response to its proposal to designate the southwest Alaska population of the northern sea otter as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act. Please send your letters of support for the sea otters to this regional office, where we will assemble and forward them to the USFW.



Legislative Update

Alaska

- The governor signed H. B. 275 into law. Although it upgrades the penalties for all acts of animal cruelty to a class A misdemeanor, including neglect, it also removes from animal control agencies the power to investigate animal cruelty.
- Also introduced were H.B. 31 and H.J.R. 5, which would increase the amount of signatures required to put an initiative on the ballot. Humane groups have



successfully used the initiative process to bring animal issues to the public when legislators were not sympathetic.

Washington

- Initiative 655 (I-655), which banned bear baiting and hounding of bears, bobcats, and cougars, was dealt a severe blow as a Jefferson County district court judge recently declared it unconstitutional. The HSUS and four other humane organizations have asked Attorney General Christine O. Gregoire to review the court's decision. Washington voters made their feelings clear about these unsporting

A skunk struggles in a trap. Such leghold trapping has successfully been banned thanks to ballot initiatives. Proposed Alaska bills would undermine the initiative process.

practices when they voted by a margin of 63 to 37 to ban them in 1996. Since that time, hunters have repeatedly attempted to undermine the measure. The HSUS will continue to fight to preserve the will of Washingtonians and protect the state's bears, bobcats, and cougars.

- The Town of Auburn introduced a city ordinance concerning potentially vicious dogs. Included was a definition of a potentially vicious dog as any weighing more than 30 pounds. Along with 150 citizens, PNRO Director Bob Reder submitted written and oral testimony in opposition to the ordinance. At a subsequent meeting the city council removed the "30-pound" provision from the definition.

For more information about regional legislation, visit the PNRO Web page at www.hsus.org/pnro and click on "Legislation."

HSUS Golden Anniversary: The Next 50 Years

By HSUS President and Chief Executive Officer Wayne Pacelle

At the age of 50, any individual or institution pauses to reflect on both the past and the future. That moment has arrived for The HSUS.

Five decades since its inception, The HSUS can look back on its accomplishments with pride. The HSUS has grown and diversified since 1954, now employing experts in companion animals, wildlife, farm animals, and animal research and attracting more than 8 million members and constituents. The HSUS has developed the most sophisticated government affairs, investigations, and humane education programs of any animal protection organization, and, recognizing that animal exploitation extends beyond our borders, now extends its programs across the globe.

Yet while our gains and our growth have made us the largest and most influential organization in the field, the challenges ahead are daunting. Animal abuse—especially in institutional forms, such as factory farming—remains more acute than ever.

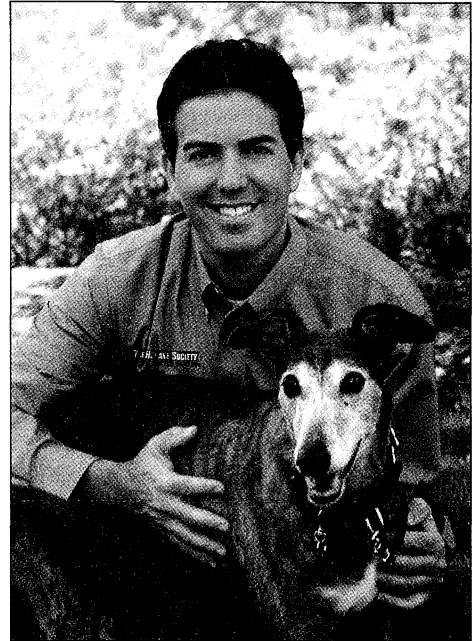
As we look ahead, The HSUS will continue to pay attention to the wide range of issues that affect the lives of animals. We will never forget our birthright: the

responsible care and protection of companion animals. We will also work to root out persistent forms of animal cruelty such as dogfighting, cockfighting, and other blood sports. But we must redouble our efforts to protect long-neglected classes of creatures, specifically animals reared for food, who are confined and killed by the billions every year.

We must become a powerful and unrelenting force in the public policy domain, working to halt intensive confinement of animals on factory farms; to compel companies to stop needless and duplicative testing on animals when alternatives exist; to shutter "puppy mills" that mass-produce dogs for the pet trade when millions of healthy and adoptable animals face abandonment or euthanasia for lack of suitable homes; to halt the fur trade; and to safeguard animals' habitats so they, too, have space and shelter.

The professional staff of The HSUS can do a great deal to achieve these goals. But we cannot accomplish them alone. Only when HSUS members in communities are active—in financially supporting our work, writing letters to newspapers and lawmakers, making responsible and humane choices in the marketplace, and educating people about animal issues in their communities—can we succeed.

Only with your active engagement will we see, on the distant horizon 50 years from



HSUS President and Chief Executive Officer Wayne Pacelle and Grace.

today, a truly humane society that accounts for the basic needs of animals and treats them all with the dignity and respect they deserve.

Wayne Pacelle took over as The HSUS's president and chief executive officer this summer. He has been with The HSUS for 10 years and served most recently as senior vice president for communications and government affairs.

I want to learn how I can help our animal friends and The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS).

Please send me information about

- ☐ Making a memorial donation to honor the life of a pet, friend, or relative.
- ☐ Providing for my pets in my will and in case of emergency.
- ☐ Planning my estate and will to help animals and The HSUS.

- ☐ Using charitable gift annuities and trusts to support The HSUS.
- ☐ Giving The HSUS a gift of stock.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

DAYTIME PHONE _____

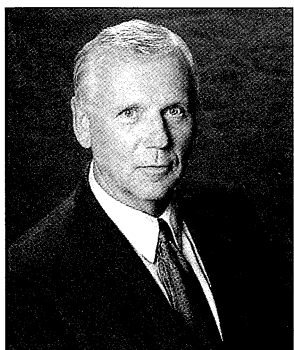
E-MAIL (OPTIONAL) _____



Promoting the protection of all animals

THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES
PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGIONAL OFFICE
P.O. Box 88199
Seattle WA 98138-8199

Director's Report



By Robert Reder
*Director of the Pacific Northwest
Regional Office*

Reaching Out

The HSUS has maintained its primary and motivating principle for over 50 years: the prevention of cruelty to all living creatures. The responsibility for the welfare of all animals is a daunting one, and it belongs to us all. HSUS staff members take our mission very seriously; however, the significance and vastness of our goals require the support, assistance, and personal involvement of our members.

How can you help? To begin with, if you are not already a member, we invite you to join The HSUS. Your membership will help fund our educational, legislative, investigative, and outreach projects. In addition to being a member, you may choose to give of your time or expertise as an HSUS volunteer. Together we will strive to make the world a better place for all animals.

The following are a few examples of opportunities in our region that require a collaborative effort and the work of volunteers. In Seattle, The HSUS has partnered with the Progressive Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) and a group of 60 dedicated volunteers, all united to prevent the future trapping and killing of unwanted Canada geese (see the story on page 1). We have

asked our Oregon members and activists to contact their state legislators, retail stores, and neighbors about the adverse effects of Bovine Growth Hormones (BGH) found in dairy products. The goal is to bring consumer pressure upon the dairy industry, until it discontinues the use of BGH. PNRO is also currently working with several coalitions in Idaho, comprised of HSUS members and concerned citizens, to tackle issues of feral cats and animal shelter improvements. The Alaska Interior Police K-9 Fund is a non-profit organization that raises money to buy bullet-proof vests for police service dogs. PNRO has taken an active role in assisting the group's efforts as it gains support throughout the state.

After the terrorist attacks of September 11, many people were motivated to become HSUS Disaster Animal Response Team (DART) members. Every year, wildfires, floods, hazardous-material spills, earthquakes, and other disasters threaten animals and people alike. DART teams consist of animal care and control professionals, emergency services and rescue workers, and other qualified volunteers. If you have skills and experience in animal handling, emergency public services, or disaster work and are interested in joining our DART team, please contact our office.

Many of our members have joined the HSUS Humane Activists Network (HAN). We realize that grass roots activism is intrinsic to successful legislative goals. HAN members staff phone trees, write letters of support, or attend legislative sessions. PNRO appreciates the work of these volunteers and is always happy to add another name to the network.

For more information about volunteer opportunities, please contact our office. As we reach out to you today, please keep in mind that collectively we *can* accomplish our goals for those creatures who cannot speak for themselves.

Contacting HSUS

Write:

HSUS Pacific Northwest Regional Office
P.O. Box 88199
Seattle WA 98138-8199

Fax:

425-656-5999

Call:

425-656-9797

Web Page:

www.hsus.org/pnro

Promoting the protection of all animals

Celebrate the Season and The HSUS



The HSUS is proud to have May Company department stores and Radko as sponsors of our 50th anniversary. As part of the celebration, May Company is offering three exclusive HSUS 50th anniversary products for sale this fall: a Radko ornament (left)

and a dog and cat plush toy by Gund. For more information visit www.hsus.org/marketplace.

continued from "Geese," page 1

that included a discussion of the HSUS-recommended non-lethal methods for controlling geese, such as egg addling, repellents, harassment, and laser lights. "Keeping these magnificent birds from the gas chamber is our primary goal," said PNRO Director Bob Reder. "The future of these animals depends on the successful results of the Seattle project. And that success surely lies with the dedication of those who have volunteered to locate nesting sites, monitor the population, remove feces, and implement the non-lethal methods, as well as the partnership between PAWS, The HSUS, and the Seattle Parks Department."

To learn more about humane goose control, go to www.wildneighbors.org. To obtain printed materials, contact our office.

The *PNRO Regional News* is a publication of The Humane Society of the United States, Pacific Northwest Regional Office, P.O. Box 88199, Seattle WA 98138-8199; 425-656-9797. The office is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is closed on federal holidays.

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